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Base celebrates return of deployed airmen



Photo by Don Peek

Staff Sgt. Doreen Blake, 94th Security Forces Squadron, arrives back at Dobbins Air Reserve Base following a two-month deployment to Saudi Arabia.

By Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis
Public Affairs

As major combat actions ended for Operation Iraqi Freedom, dozens of airmen from the 94th Airlift Wing started arriving back at Dobbins ARB after several months of duty. Troops from the 94th Security Forces Squadron and the 94th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron returned home in early May. They had been activated after the war with Iraq started. And, later in the month, another group of cops arrived from Afghanistan, after spending six months providing base security.

Arriving in Kuwait shortly after a Scud missile, 13 members of the 94th SFS were glad they made it that far and were anxious to get on to their mission at King Faisal Air Base in Tabouk, Saudi Arabia. Located in the northern part of Saudi Arabia, the sprawling air base is closely linked to a commercial airfield that serves the city of 150,000. Security forces members began their mission by patrolling more than 10 miles of their section of the perimeter.

"One of our big challenges was getting there, but after we settled into our mission, we weren't ready to leave when the time came," said Master Sgt. Timothy Diehl, 94th SFS NCOIC of supply who was the squad leader for the deployment. For Diehl and his troops, this was their first trip into what they called the 'sand box.'

"Our mission was to secure a section of the air base," said Diehl who organized his team into three-man teams. "We patrolled the perimeter using all terrain vehicles, manned base entry points and conducted operations using a K-9 team."

Diehl added that while at the base, the contingent participated in a riot control exercise with the Royal Saudi Air Force.

"It's really good to have him home," said Jewell Johnson, mother of Shaun Johnson, 94th SFS security specialist. "We're so glad they're all back safe, but now, Shaun's going to return to his normal life and finish his college education." Jewell and Nathaniel, Shaun's father,

were two of a small group of friends and family that met with Shaun at Base Operations. Shaun was looking forward to getting back to his video graphics training and business, but said he was really happy to be able to sleep on a real mattress. The contingent arrived home May 1.

Several days later on May 4, another group of reservists touched down to a rousing welcome from their families and their unit as a C-141 shuttled 94th AES members to their own back door in Bldg. 838. Two members of Maj. Wayne Hudson's fan club were certainly delighted to have him back home. Dayne age 10 and Kyle age seven were on hand to greet their dad when he arrived here.

Hudson, 94th AES chief of operations, was the deputy director for the 491st Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron and led a 16-person contingent from Dobbins ARB to Rota, Spain. The U.S. Naval facility in Rota, Spain, is strategically located near the Straits of Gibraltar and is at the halfway point between the United States and Southwest Asia.

"I was most impressed with the cooperation and team attitude among units that ran the EAES," said Hudson, an employee with Prudential Financials when he's not caring for patients. "The esprit de corps was extraordinary. We weren't training, we were participating in launch and recovery missions and when you actually see the patients, you know that you are contributing." Hudson's team worked at processing battlefield injuries that included gunshot and shrapnel wounds, burns and accident victims.

"I had to learn to be flexible," said Airman 1st Class Stephanie Strickland. "Nothing went perfect, and we had to always be prepared to handle the situations that came up. Configuration teams prepared planes to go pick up patients in Kuwait and return them to the field hospital operated by the 8th Navy Fleet. There, patients were evaluated, treated and either sent home or back to duty. When patients were sent home, Strickland and her team configured the aircraft for those flights as well. During their deployment with the 491st, team members processed near-

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Air Force eases Stop-Loss restrictions

WASHINGTON - Air Force personnel officials announced May 14 the release of more than half of the Air Force specialty codes restricted from retirement or separation under the Stop-Loss program.

After a review of operational requirements, 31 officer and 20 enlisted career fields were identified for release from Stop-Loss, the officials said. Stop-Loss went in to effect May 2 and affected 43 officer and 56 enlisted AFSCs. *(See list of AFSCs released from Stop-Loss on Page 3.)*

The Air Force announced March 13 that it would implement Stop-Loss, a

Defense Department program designed to retain members of the armed forces beyond their established dates of separation or retirement. The program also affected deployed airmen, regardless of AFSC, for the duration of their deployment. These moves were aimed at ensuring personnel levels were adequate to meet upcoming contingencies.

"It was not an action that we took lightly," said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche. "It was designed to preserve Air Force skills essential to supporting the global war on terrorism and opera-

tions in Iraq."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper said service officials have always said that they will use Stop-Loss only as long as necessary to accomplish the mission.

"We've reevaluated our requirements and are releasing these AFSCs because Stop-Loss is inconsistent with the fundamental principles of voluntary service," Jumper said.

Maj. Teresa Forest, chief of Air

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Memorial Day to Labor Day—101 critical days of safety

By Master Sgt. Stan Coleman
94th Public Affairs

The transition from spring to summer takes us into a more active time of the year with graduations, vacations, outdoor grills and fun-times at the pool during the hot summer days.

Along with hot weather fun comes the need for an increased awareness and practice of safety.

"Historically, the Air Force suffers more on- and off-duty fatalities and mishaps during the 101 days between Memorial Day and Labor Day than any other time of the year," said Charles 'Doug' Conner, 94th Airlift Wing safety manager.

"Motor vehicle operation is the most hazardous activity our personnel are routinely exposed to," said Conner. "Most accidents occur in traffic between home and the job. Passengers in automobiles and on motorcycles are vulnerable because they have little immediate control."

Ken Farrey, 94th Readiness readiness specialist, is a recent survivor of a motorcycle accident.

"I was traveling down a two lane highway on my way home after umpiring a high school baseball game in Covington, Ga.," he said. "I approached the intersection when a driver in a car made a left-hand turn in front of me. I swerved to avoid the car and went into the ditch on the other side of the intersection. The road dropped off about six to eight inches. My bike and I hit the dirt in the ditch. My shoulder blade, ribs and collar bone were fractured."

Farrey was taken to Newton County Hospital and later transferred to Atlanta Medical Center for a possible torn main artery and separated chest wall. Maj. David Rodberg, 94th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron flight nurse, was a member of the helicopter team that transported him.

After several days in the intensive care unit and three more days in a private room, he went home on Easter Sunday. Farrey credits his protective helmet and jacket for preventing any further injuries that could have



Photo by Don Peek

Ken Farrey, 94th AW Readiness readiness specialist, shows off the protective helmet that protected him from additional injuries in his motorcycle accident in April.

occurred.

"I'm more observant of drivers in the Atlanta area and I'm a more cautious rider on the motorcycle. The people in Atlanta are in a hurry to get nowhere," he said.

Safety awareness doesn't begin and end on the roadway. According to Conner, children, elderly family members, and homes should be safeguarded against mishaps. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other basic first-aid techniques are good skills to learn.

He suggests that we have plans for emergencies by knowing where first-aid kits and fire extinguishers are located and how to summon for help. And he said to be proactive in teaching children about known hazards.

"Children should be taught an escape from the home or wherever they are in case of an emergency," added Connor. When it comes to our elderly family mem-

bers, he suggests that we know their limitations and provide a means for them to summon someone in case of an emergency.

Finally, Connor mentioned alcohol consumption.

Reservists are advised not to drink and operate vehicles, such as cars, jet skis or boats. If anyone has to drink, do it moderately and always appoint a designated driver.

"Historically, our mishap rates in the military are lower than the civilian sector in all disciplines," said Conner. "The 94th AW had two reportable (lost work-day) mishaps in fiscal year 2001, one mishap in FY 2002 and five thus far in FY 03. Our trend needs to be reversed."

For more information regarding safety issues, search "101 Critical Days of Summer" on the web or visit http://www.au.af.mil/42abw/42se/101_critical_days_of_summer.htm.

New AF campaign thanks parents of serving airmen

Washington-Secretary of the Air Force James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper launched a service-wide campaign May 5 to thank the parents of America's airmen for their support of their children's service.

The Air Force Parent Pin - or "P" pin - program encourages airmen to register on a secure Air Force web site, www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com, where they can provide the names and addresses of up to two parents (or parental figures).

Shortly thereafter, the airmen's parents receive personalized letters from Secretary Roche and General Jumper containing high-quality lapel pins displaying the letter "P" cradled in the Air Force symbol.

All airmen - active, Guard, and Reserve - are strongly encouraged by their chain of command to register on the web site and have pins sent to up to two recipients.

The pins are a contemporary adaptation of the World War II "E" flags that were used to recognize companies for contributions to the war effort, and they are presented on display cards that explain their lineage.

The letters address recipients and



airmen by name.

They are intended to communicate to parents the importance of their children's service to the ongoing war on terrorism, to express sincere gratitude for parents' continued support, and to convey a sense of partnership between the Air Force and the parents of America's airmen.

This massive effort comes on heels of the Air Force's highly-successful "E" pin program, which represented the first direct-mail outreach effort from the leaders of any of the armed services to employers across America.

Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command airmen voluntarily submitted contact information for more than 60,000 employers, each of whom received an "E" pin and a personalized letter from the Secretary of the Air Force and the Air Force Chief of Staff acknowledging them as partners in the war effort.

Air Force leaders have received hun-

dreds of supportive letters and e-mails from employers and airmen because of this program, and today, tens of thousands of employers are wearing Air Force "E" pins as pledges of support for the military service of their airmen.

Both the "P" pin and "E" pin campaigns are elements of the Air Force's Your Guardians of Freedom program. As families, employers, and communities across the nation share the burdens of military service, it is critical that commanders at every level reach out to cultivate the relationships that form the foundation of public support for their airmen.

Through a secure web site at www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com, the Your Guardians of Freedom program offers a flexible, user-friendly set of web-based tools that allow commanders and their staffs to quickly and efficiently reach out to key audiences on their bases, in their communities, and beyond.

EOD teams set to dispose of unexploded munitions in Iraq

Eight members from Dobbins undergoing training for mid-summer deployment

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Air Force reservists in explosive ordnance disposal teams will deploy this summer to Iraq to disarm or destroy unexploded munitions.

The reservists will augment or relieve active-duty teams already in place as fighting in Iraq subsides and the region becomes more stabilized.

An example of why EOD personnel are needed occurred recently when a young Iraqi girl found an unexploded bomb that detonated as she handed it to four American soldiers on patrol in Baghdad. One of the GIs lost a leg.

In addition to removing hazards to the public, the Air Force Reserve Command EOD teams will be responsible for identifying, cataloging and accounting for every piece of coalition and enemy unexploded ordnance resulting from battle.

The Reserve has about 130 reservists qualified to participate on EOD teams. Of those, more than 50 are mobilized and another 25 are pending mobilization. Many of those mobilized are being remobilized from Operation Noble Eagle.

Before each deployment, EOD people must complete spin-up training to reacquaint them with the ordnance they will face, to prepare for the rigors of deployment and to ensure they have the tools necessary to do their jobs safely and efficiently once they deploy to the area of responsibility. The training runs 90 to 120 days, depending on the experience of the individuals who make up two- to six-man teams.

According to Tom Piper, EOD manager for Air Force Reserve Command, team members must be familiar with at least 2,500 line items (types of munitions) and the different methods of making them safe and disposing of them.

"EOD troops have to be smart on each piece of munition," Piper said. "They study an ordnance order of battle, or OOB. In Iraq's case, there will be munitions on that list from all over the world. They must also be familiar with three different robotics systems that are used to aid in the disposal of unexploded ordnance."

In addition to handling munitions, EOD people must be qualified on several kinds of weapons, including the M-16 rifle, M-82 sniper rifle and M-9 handgun.

The 94th Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., has eight members undergoing spin-up training in anticipation of a mid-summer deployment to Iraq. They are learning about the ordnance order of battle and practicing on the robotics system called ANDROS.

"ANDROS is used for remote reconnaissance and the remote removal of items," said Senior Airman Steven Jones, a two-year EOD technician with the 94th EOD. "It's used to remove items such as improvised explosive devices, which are highly dangerous for people to try and remove."

The 94th EOD completed its first month of spin-up training in April, and Master Sgt. Brad McKinney, the unit's program manager, feels that the unit is strong and is ready to meet the demands it faces once it deploys.

"Diversity and selflessness are our greatest strengths," McKinney said. "And, because we train and work alongside the other three branches of the military, we tend to think a bit more outside the box than most people. We see things no one else does."

(AFRC News Service)

Six awarded CCAF degrees

Master Sgt. Ernest Farmer, 94th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, led the way for the May 2003 graduation cycle of the Community College of the Air Force. Farmer received two associate of applied science degrees, one in Information Management and another in Mental Health Services.

Also, receiving their second degrees were Tech. Sgt. Tharis Word, 94th Mission Support Squadron, for Education and Training Management, and Master Sgt. Charles Ford, 94th Maintenance Operations Flight, for Logistics.

Other airmen receiving degrees this cycle were: Senior Airman Thalmus Porter, 94th Logistics Readiness Squadron, for Transportation; Tech. Sgt. Ann Satchell, 94th Security Forces Squadron, for Criminal Justice; and Staff Sgt. Phillip Thomas, 80th Aerial Port Squadron, for Information Systems Technology.



Photo by Don Peek

Word, left, and Farmer, both have two CCAF degrees to show for their work.

Stop-Loss from Page 1

Force retirements and separation policy in the Pentagon, said this announcement is the result of an in-depth review.

"A number of different factors went into the review process," Forest said. "We had to consider the balance between the active duty and the Air Reserve Components, as well as the need to remain responsive to changing events worldwide."

Deployed active-duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command

airmen whose AFSCs are released from Stop-Loss will not be allowed to retire or separate until their deployment is completed, Forest said. Reserve component airmen who are mobilized, but not deployed, will be demobilized according to ARC policy.

The actual "termination" of Stop-Loss has yet to be determined because the Air Force and the combatant commanders still need certain skills to directly support the war in Iraq, Forest said.

More career fields will likely be

released in the future, she said, based on input from different levels around the Air Force. However, if airmen experience a severe hardship caused by Stop-Loss, they can apply for a waiver through their chain of command.

"Many families have had to put their plans on hold because of Stop-Loss,"

Forest said. "We will make every effort to balance their needs with our commitment to operational requirements."

Additional information regarding the release of certain AFSCs is available at installation military personnel flights. (AFRC News Service from Air Force Print News)

The following enlisted controlled Air Force specialty codes have been released from Stop-Loss, regardless of prefix or suffix except where indicated.		3E5X1	Engineering
		3E7X1	Fire protection
		3E8X1	Explosive ordnance disposal
		3E9X1	Readiness
		3H0X1	Historian
1C2XX	Combat control	3N0XX	Public affairs and broadcasting
1C4XX	Tactical command and control	4A1XX	Medical material
1S0XX	Safety	4A2XX	Biomedical equipment
1T1XX	Aircrew life support	4B0XX	Bioenvironmental engineering
3E000	Electrical	4E0XX	Public health
3E0X2	Electrical power production	4H0XX	Cardiopulmonary laboratory
3E4X1	Utilities systems	5J0X1	Paralegal
3E4X2	Liquid fuels systems maint.		

The following officer primary Air Force specialty codes have been released from Stop-Loss, regardless of prefix or suffix except where indicated.		13DXB	Special tactics
		32EX	Civil engineer
		43EX	Bioenvironmental engineer
		43HX	Public health
		43TX	Biomedical laboratory
11BX	Bomber pilot	44EX	Emergency services physician
11EX	Test pilot	44MX	Internist
11FX	Fighter pilot	45AX	Anesthesiologist
11HX	Helicopter pilot	45BX	Orthopedic surgeon
11KX	Trainer pilot	45SX	Surgeon
12BX	Bomber navigator	46FX	Flight nurse
12EX	Test navigator	46MX	Nurse anesthetist
12FX	Fighter navigator	46NXE	Critical care nurse
12KX	Trainer navigator	46SX	Operating room nurse
12RX	Reconnaissance, surveillance, electronic warfare navigator	46SA	Aerospace medicine specialist
12TX	Tanker navigator	48GX	General medical officer
13BX	Air battle manager	48rx	Residency trained flight surgeon
13DXA	Combat rescue	51JX	Judge advocate

Split Training Option a good thing



Photo by Don Peek

By Chief Master Sgt. James Woods
94th Airlift Wing
Command chief master sergeant

I look forward to our wing's adoption of the new Split Training Option program recently announced for the Air Force Reserve. The program, which was authorized for implementation as a non-prior servicemember enlistment tool, promises to be a catalyst that will help our newest airmen adjust to and then excel at their new Air Force Reserve careers.

In the past, when new airmen returned from basic training and there was a delay getting into their technical school, the Reserve lost valuable training time and the airmen lost that sharp edge they bring back from basic.

This meant that while they waited on their technical school, some of the skills, traditions, and discipline they learned in their first weeks slipped away.

The STO program is a two-year pilot program designed to

stop that loss of momentum. Under the program, newly enlisted members attend basic military training, and during their transition from basic to technical training are assigned to a special unit for training at the 94th Airlift Wing. The program will ensure that they continue to receive meaningful ancillary training until technical school quotas becomes available for their schools. It's also a good outlet for new airmen to work as a team and to share ideas and concerns with other airmen across our base.

As part of the program, we are looking for two focused and energetic noncommissioned officers to take charge and make a difference in the careers and lives of these new recruits. We need a master and technical sergeant who are pioneers and self-starters. We want them to take our program from scratch and make it a blue-ribbon program. These two NCOs will set up a program for us to continue the indoctrination of our young airmen to the Air Force way of life. The guidance of these NCOs will also help maintain a high standard of military bearing for our airmen and maintain a positive training and learning atmosphere as they await their school assignments.

Some of the responsibilities awaiting the two program leaders include creating class plans and establishing a training curriculum to educate and motivate the airmen. And while motivation is a vital part of the training, the new instructors must also be sharp and have a good working knowledge of Air Force regulations, courtesies and customs. Where the program goes, such as the types of classes and activities, is up to the instructors.

In addition to managing our new squadron of airmen, the instructors will be expected to keep up their own professional military education and career courses within their units. They won't train with their units on the weekend.

We'll have a high turnover rate in the new unit, because airmen will cycle out of it when they go to their technical schools. However, the continuity of training that the STO program will bring us is important and will ensure that the proper mentorship is in place to enable new airmen to continue to develop into effective team players for the best Air Force in the world.

Force protection isn't only for deployments!

Summer time is fast approaching, the kids are out of school and you're thinking about taking that long-anticipated trip overseas. Have you received your Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Level One briefing recently? Many subjects covered in your level one briefing are not for military deployments only. You should consider the subjects if you plan overseas travel for pleasure.

As U.S. citizens, we are subject to being targets just because of who we are. With the ever-changing attitudes and postures in foreign countries it pays to be alert and aware at all times.

Before you leave:

✂ Check your wardrobe. We're all proud of our military affiliation as well as our favorite sports teams, but clothing items with military insignia, sports team logos or American flags readily identify us as U.S. citizens and could identify you as a target. Leave them at home.

✂ Use plain luggage. Leave suitcases with U.S. insignia, squadron or military patches at home.

✂ Exchange some of your U.S. dollars for currency from the country you plan to visit prior to arrival there.

✂ Make sure a family member or friend has your travel itinerary. Check in with them while you're gone. If something happens to you, the authorities will have an idea where to start looking.

✂ Research to find out what is going on in the country you plan to visit. Use the internet, libraries, or TV to gather the information. The State Department web site has information on all

foreign countries and regularly publishes travel warnings as well as immunization requirements.

✂ Put your military ID somewhere (if you have to take it) so that it can't be found easily on your person.

✂ Pack a translation guide to help you speak a little bit of the language of the country you're going to.

When you arrive:

✂ Make sure you know where the closest U.S. embassy is in case you need assistance.

✂ Learn how to use the country's telephone system. Telephone systems do not work the same as ours.

✂ Know where the closest police department, fire department and hospital are in case you need assistance.

✂ Remain alert and aware of what is going on around you. You are the most vulnerable when you feel too comfortable in your surroundings.

✂ Know where emergency equipment and exits are where you're staying and familiarize yourself with how the equipment works.

✂ Try not to stay on the first two floors of your hotel and try not to be higher than the seventh floor. If you're staying for an extended period of time, change rooms and floors.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact your local Office of Special Investigations at 678-655-3990/3991, 94th Wing Intelligence Office at 678-655-5913 or the Force Protection office at 678-655-4138.



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ly 1,000 patients.

Strickland, who was called 'junior' by her counterparts, was the lowest ranking airman on the job in Rota, but that didn't keep her from pulling 12-hour shifts that often lasted for 18 to 20 hours. She worked on the configuration team preparing C-141s for launching to either Kuwait or back to the U.S.

"I was doing fine with the whole deployment until I was getting off the plane and saw my dad," added Strickland. "Seeing him brought out a lot of emotions." Her father, Master Sgt. James Strickland, had served in the first Gulf War and is a reservist with the 22nd Air Force.

Also serving in the first Gulf War was Master Sgt. Bobby Fisher. His return home on May 15 after 186 days of active duty marked the end of his second wartime tour in the area. His homecoming was a relief for his wife, Celia, and sons Jonathan and Robert. Fisher, 94th SFS squad leader, served as the flight chief for 13 deployed security police as they patrolled the not so friendly compound at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. The base is about 30 miles north of the capital city, Kabul.

"We didn't know who the bad guys were," Fisher recalled. "Ten and 12 year olds carry weapons there and local warlords were always fighting around our perimeter. Not with us, but with each other. It wasn't unusual for them to fire across the base at each other." However, according to Fisher, there were occasional rocket attacks and small-arms fire directed at coalition forces on the base. Not to mention the landmines.

"You always walked on known trails," he said. "And when the season changed and the grass turned green, you didn't walk on the green grass." As part of their mission, the cops performed airfield security, worked security details off base with counter intelligence forces, conducted patrols in local towns to show a presence, and assisted humanitarian efforts with medical personnel.

Originally deployed as part of an Air Expeditionary Force, the contingent was



Photo by Don Peek

Jewell Johnson gives her son, Senior Airman Shaun Johnson, 94th SFS, a welcome-home hug. Shaun's father, aunts and grandmother were also on hand for his homecoming.

looking forward to coming home at the end of their 90 days. Then, world conditions changed and they were frozen in place indefinitely without a certain future of coming home.

"It really depressed us," said Fisher, whose troops were washing uniforms by hand. "We had been in country for 45 days and were starting to think about coming home when the freeze threw us for a loop. Then, one day our relief forces just showed up and here we are at home." Handling the separation was in the hands of Celia, who pointed out several ways that helped her cope with her husband being deployed.

"We were fortunate to have the support of family, friends, and Bobby's coworkers in the Cobb County Police Department, who helped with things like Christmas shopping and ball games for the boys," she said. "We didn't get to make calls to each other that often, but we found that instant messaging with computers was really effective. Our youngest son could

draw for his daddy and his daddy could respond back immediately. It was amazing." The family also set up a web cam at Christmas for their dad to see them open their presents.

"There were moments when we were afraid," Celia said. "When I heard the news of men dying at Bagram, it created some anxious moments." She said the first thing she did was call Chief Master Sgt. Jeff Cain at 22nd Air Force. Cain, a close neighbor had often helped the family understand the real-world conditions facing Bobby and was able to resolve her concerns about the fatalities. "He was like an angel to us," she added.

Returning with a new understanding of flexibility, all three 94th AW contingents learned that they had to adapt to situations that were often beyond their control.

From getting to their deployment sites to adjusting to the weather, operation changes, and sleeping conditions, to having a few extra months tacked onto their tour, the deployments were a challenge.

"I couldn't be happier for them," smiled Brig. Gen. William Kane, 94th AW commander, who was on hand to greet all the deployments upon their return. "They're home safe and with their families. I couldn't ask for any more than that."



Photo by Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis

As the bus made its way to the security forces building, families lined up waving flags for their returning troops.



Photo by Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis

As other families celebrated around them, Master Sgt. Bobby Fisher and Celia, and their sons Robert (left) and Jonathan are glad to be he's back home.

The Dobbins nerve center

By Senior Airman David Atchison
Public Affairs

If Dobbins Air Reserve Base could be perceived as a body, then it's safe to assume that the 94th Airlift Wing Command Post is its nervous system. Without this small group sending and receiving vital communications across the base and around the world, the body doesn't function.

"The command post directs and coordinates many of the base's operations," said Tech. Sgt. Tara Wylie, command post superintendent. "We monitor flight operations, direct and perform command and control activities, and assist in



Photo by Don Peek

Staff Sgt. Chad Westbrook, left, and Senior Airman Gabriel Maciaz, command post controllers, transmit information about planes, missions and people across the base and around the world.

the development and implementation of training programs. We also manage database reports."

During flight operations, command post members review and coordinate flight schedules with all the involved agencies. They use computer systems to stay on top of updated control and history of all the unit's flying activities. Members also process requests for all mission identifiers and provide information on a daily basis to key staff members. This includes weather reports, security-level conditions, access codes and the current flying status of base-related missions.

Because this small group keeps its finger on the pulse of the base, others benefit from their information. "We act as an executive agent for the wing commander and the wing staff" Wylie said. "The command post is responsible for analyzing and evaluating unit response requirements and functions related to command during peacetime and contingency operations." She added that they also respond to all higher headquarters emergency action messages and advise unit commanders and key personnel on security conditions.

The command post directs the implementation of actions ordered by the Air Force Reserve Command and the gaining command operations orders and plans and initiates emergency actions in case of sabotage, accidents, natural disasters, aircraft evacuation, dispersal, and other command interest items.

"We use the latest computer-generated messaging technology and report software to submit reports for unit assigned aircraft during peacetime and wartime operations," said Wylie.

With their sophisticated communication systems, controllers ensure that the left hand always knows what the right hand is doing.

Are you fit?

Wellness classes underway here

By Senior Airman Paul Reid Hanna
Public Affairs

What can be done for a strained or chronic bad back? How can you lose weight before the next unit training assembly? How do people motivate themselves to exercise?

Since Daniela Jerkins, 94th Services fitness specialist, was assigned to Dobbins Air Reserve Base last October, she asked everyone about personal health needs. Out of her questioning, she learned there was need for health education.

She felt the 94th Services Squadron could provide for fitness and health needs by offering classes on health topics. Because Dobbins ARB doesn't have a health and wellness cen-



Photo by Senior Airman Paul Reid Hanna

Dr. Randall Pierce taught several wellness class at Dobbins ARB as 94th Services looks for ways to improve health at the base.

ter, Jerkins decided the Fitness Center could conduct its own classes to help educate reservists and civilian workers on wellness and a healthier life style.

"Health is a balance between physical, emotional and environmental factors," Jerkins said. "A healthy person is a happy person, and a happy person is a productive person."

Classes began in April when Dr. Randall Pierce, a local chiropractor, nutritionist and personal trainer, answered Jerkin's call for aid. Pierce taught classes covering nutrition, healthy eating and weight loss, and back and knee health. Additional classes are scheduled for June 11 and 25 that cover stress management and teenage-wellness for parents.

The key is knowing how to be fit according to Jerkins, who lives that philosophy. The opportunity to work closely with local health providers and Dobbins employees is a highlight of her time at Dobbins ARB. Jerkins hopes high attendance will lead services to adopt a health education program and improved the wellness of base personnel.

Upcoming classes...

June 12, noon-1 p.m., Headache Relief and Prevention by Dr. Joe Esposito.

June 25, noon to 1 p.m., Hypertension by NAS Atlanta Branch Medical Clinic.

July 16, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Carpal Tunnel Syndrome by Dr. Randall Pierce

Dobbins volunteer recognized by AF

By Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis
Public Affairs

Don Bradford knows all about the Air Force. He retired from it in 1967 after 21 years of service. But, Bradford never quit serving in his heart, especially when it comes to military organizations.

At 74, this Air Force Sergeants Association volunteer was recently recognized for his contributions as a volunteer at Dobbins ARB. Bradford has spent many hours in the Family Support office during the past several years and received a Certificate of Volunteer Excellence from the Air Force for his service.

Presented by Brig. Gen. William Kane, 94th Airlift Wing commander, the certificate recognizes outstanding

achievements by a volunteer.

Kane joined with members of AFSA chapters 452 and 452A to present the certificate.

"I've seen what your group does for our base and it's a powerful statement about volunteerism," Kane said. "And Don's a great example of what you do. He's stays busy as a volunteer and he does it all with a smile."

Bradford also volunteers with the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and the Veterans Administration Hospital, to name a few.

"I like to give back," explained Bradford. "I enjoy working with people and have fun at what I do. This is my way of helping others, and it's good for me to get out."

Bradford and his wife, Anna, have also been active many years with POW/MIA ceremonies at Dobbins.



Photo by Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis

Ealy Ritter from Family Support chats with Don and Anna Bradford after Don was presented a Certificate of Volunteer Excellence.

Dining facility closed

The dining facility will be closed during the July and October UTA weekends. The Dobbins Consolidated Club will provide meals for these two periods.

New hours for the Fitness Center

Starting in June, the Dobbins Fitness Center is changing its operating hours. The new UTA hours are from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

Air Force Sergeants Association meetings

If you are a member of AFSA or want to be a member, you can stop by at one of the organization's monthly meetings and check it out. The group meets every third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion on Grisham Road in Marietta.

Fitness Center events

The fitness center is hosting an endurance contest, racquetball tournament, and a three-point/ free throw contest during the June UTA. This is the event schedule:

✂ Three point/free-throw contest - From 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday.

✂ Endurance contest - From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday and from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

✂ Racquetball tournament - From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4 to 6:30 p.m. on Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information, call 678-655-4872.

CDC and PME testing is now by appointment only

Effective immediately, the Training Office is testing for all Career Development Courses and Professional Military Education courses by appointment only. The office conducts paper-based and electronic testing. Paper-based testing for CDCs and PME courses is at 9 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Make sure that you contact the office to schedule your test and to ensure that the test has been ordered and

received. During unit training weekends, paper-based testing is at 1 p.m. on Saturday and at 9 a.m. on Sunday. Electronic testing for Course 5 and 12 and for CERT testing is at alternate times from the paper-based testing during UTA weekends and during the week. Call extension 678-655-5045/5043 to schedule any test.

Obtaining your Common-Access-Card

It's nothing less than a smart card and will be your key to future military operations. But to get there you need to have the card issued to you. To obtain the card:

✂ Access your Internet Explorer and enter <https://afpki.lackland.af.mil/scheduler.htm>

✂ Select Dobbins from the drop-down list. Your username/password is either scheduler type: non-reservist or Reserve-specific. Select either:

- Dobbins ARB (Non-Reservists), this is Monday - Friday appointments for DoD, civilians, contractors, and air reserve technicians.

- Dobbins ARB (UTA weekend only) for reservists.

✂ Go to New User, click register, and complete the New User Registration screen.

✂ Complete the login and create your username and password, using 6 to 10 numeric characters only.

✂ Select your appointment date and time using the calendar on the Web Scheduler screen.

You receive an appointment confirmation by email. While you can cancel your appointment, it's important to honor your appointment time.

Military appreciation discounts available

These discounts are available to servicemembers and their families:

✂ Anheuser-Busch is offering free single day admission passes to its Sea World, Busch Gardens and Sesame Place parks to all military members and up to four dependents through November. Visit their web site at www.4adventure.com/home.aspx and click their Special Offers option.

✂ Access this web site for more information about military discounts that are available: <http://www.military.com/memberimageupload/deals>

Sharp Troop Award



Photo by Master Sgt. Stan Coleman

"If you know Tech. Sgt. Jaini King, you have to agree that she is one sharp troop," said Chief Master Sgt. John Cowman, 700th Airlift Squadron, FTU Superintendent. King, 94th Mission Support Squadron personnel specialist, received a Sharp Troop coin and certificate from Cowman and the Dobbins Chiefs Group for her attitude and willingness to help others.

Defensive driving course offered

Would you like to become a better driver, improve your driving skills, and possibly save money on your car insurance?

If you answered yes, to one or more of the questions, consider enrolling in the Defensive Drivers Course. This computer-based training is conducted at the Wing Safety Office, Bldg. 737, during normal duty hours.

Motor vehicle collisions are the leading cause of workplace deaths. They, more than any other cause of injury, represent the highest average workers compensation.

Many insurance companies recognize the financial benefits gained by their clients completing defensive driving courses and they can pass that savings on to their customers. Some Dobbins ARB participants have saved more than \$80 dollars on their car insurance.

The course consists of five segments that you can take at once or divide into individual sessions. Course times vary, depending on your knowledge and skills, but the average is between two and three hours. After you complete the course, a certificate is issued and is the documentation the insurance company needs to affect any discount. In addition to any monetary gain, you become more aware of your driving habits and reinforce existing skills.

The course is free and available to Dobbins ARB military and civilian personnel and their dependents. Call the Safety office at 678-655-5121 to schedule an appointment.

Career milestone

Newly promoted Staff Sgt. Joseph Powell, 80th Aerial Port Squadron ramp specialist, right, is joined by his supervisor Master Sgt. Kent Smith, a ramp section supervisor, left, and Maj. Marshall Irvin, his commander. "I didn't expect all of this," said Powell as the three talked after the NCO Induction Ceremony held last month at the Base Chapel. "I knew our wing commander would be here, but I didn't expect the chapel to be that full." The Dobbins First Sergeants Association sponsors the ceremony to recognize new NCOs.



Photo by Senior Airman Brett Brown

94th SFS troops take time to visit schools during local Police Officer's Day

By Staff Sgt. Micky Cordiviola
Public Affairs

With gazing eyes, a group of curious children listened to every word from the police officers. No, the children weren't in trouble; they were participating in Police Officer's Day at Bartow County's Emerson Elementary School. The annual event included 20 different police departments from around Atlanta, and the 94th Security Forces Squadron.

"The event provides an opportunity for children to meet police officers in a positive light," said 1st Lt. Sharon Dondlinger, 94th SFS flight leader. "It also gives the children a better understanding of what our duties are as police officers." At the event held in April, children received a first-hand touch-

and-feel experience with different police tools, such as handcuffs, bulletproof vests, batons, and helmets.

"The most popular item was our handcuffs," said Staff Sgt. Darien Thornton, 94th SFS security specialist. "They all either wanted to be handcuffed or they wanted to handcuff their friends." Along with the usual items used by civilian police officers, the military cops explained meals-ready-to-eat and described their Air Force field equipment.

"I always enjoy going to this event," said Thornton. "It gives us a chance to show the kids a career option for when they get older. Whether it is law enforcement or military, they are shown a positive option that can help them focus on something and keep them out of trouble." After some grueling questioning, such as have you ever been shot? Or have you shot anyone, the kids still found the time to jump into the back seat of the police cruiser and get locked in by their friends.

"One little girl came up to me and started asking me all kinds of questions," said Thornton. "The teacher was surprised and later told me that the girl never speaks to anyone. This was something that I will remember for a long time." At the end of the event a whistle blew and all the police cars turned on their sirens to mark the end of another successful day at school.



Courtesy photo

A real kindergarten cop, Staff Sgt. Darien Thornton, 94th SFS security specialist, shows his students what life is like for military cops.

Newly assigned

Capt. Catherine A. Ferris
Tech. Sgt. George E. Atkinson
Tech. Sgt. Eric J. Stringer
Staff Sgt. Loretta Daniels
Staff Sgt. Frank S. Keener Jr
Staff Sgt. Wayne T. Rogers
Staff Sgt. Lonnie L. Bridges
Senior Airman Bryant K. L. Brandon
Senior Airman Carla R. Coleman
Senior Airman Jerkerris O. Griffin
Senior Airman Holly M. Harris
Senior Airman Shonda M. Hayes
Senior Airman Joseph Jacobs Jr.
Senior Airman Betty L. Morris
Senior Airman Christopher Wescovich
Airman 1st Class Deitrich A. Arnette
Airman 1st Class Ashia K. Bennett
Airman 1st Class Anthius Q. Bruno
Airman 1st Class John P. Crutchfield
Airman 1st Class Michael D. Flanigan
Airman 1st Class Lakeysa B. Jackson
Airman 1st Class Daniel C. Parker
Airman Basic Amy J. Ricketts
Airman Basic Mikel H. Samuel

Promotions

Airman

Genesis S. Butler

Airman 1st Class

Jennifer R. Bankston

Jarrett S. Bowens

Tony L. Sailor Jr

Senior Airman

Rose M. Eskridge

Don Ronquillo Nees

Marcella M. Paul

Michael P. Sapanza

Charise N. Umstead

Staff Sergeant

Sherethea L. Copeland

Michael A. Cordiviola

Tina M. Herliska

Steven R. Jones

Antwan M. Marbley

Jason A. Mellor

Jennifer C. Puryear

Eric D. Rush

Technical Sergeant

Kenay M. Fleming

Ethan J. Garrett

Engle R. Hinton

Darwin King

Jeffery D. New

Jerald C. Pedersen

Samuel M. Ruff

Gene Taylor

Marcia Williams

Master Sergeant

Eric Acevedo

Nathaniel R. Champion

William G. Clare

Jennifer J. Doucette

James K. Going

Mikal K. Hameed

Michael R. Hicks

Senior Master

Sergeant

Zane M. Overstreet

Chief Master

Sergeant

Vernetta L. Joyner

UTA Schedule

S A T U R D A Y	Activity	Time	Location	S U N D A Y	Activity	Time	Location
	Wing element staff mtg	7:30-8 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202		SF training	8 a.m.	Combat Arms range
	CDC study hall	7:30-10 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304		Physical exams (aircrew)	8 a.m.	Navy Clinic
	M9/M16 AFQC	8 a.m.	Combat Arms Range		Immunizations	8-11 a.m.	Navy Clinic
	Occupational physicals	8-11 a.m.	Navy Clinic		Physical exams (non aircrew)	8:30 a.m.	Navy Clinic
	Newcomers intro	8:30-9:30 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR		NBCCD initial	8 a.m.-2 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1322
	NBCCD refresher	9-11 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1322		HRDC Mtg	9 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR
	Newcomers orientation	9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202		In house 3S0X1 tng	8-9 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304
	Training review panel	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Bldg. 727/700 AS		Fam Spt Grp volunteer mtg	9 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2313
	Deployment mgrs mtg	10-11 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR		Yellow Fever shots	9-10 a.m.	Navy Clinic
	First Sgt. group mtg	11 a.m.-noon	Bldg. 501/CES		Chiefs Group meeting	9-10 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202
	Occupational physicals	1 p.m.	Navy Clinic		CDC exams	9 a.m.-noon	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304
	CDC exams	1-3 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304		Tng review panel	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Bldg. 727/700 AS
	NBCCD refresher	1-3 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1322		IG Complaints	10 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2105
	Deployment outprocess	2 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2406		Enl advisor council mtg	10-10:30 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR
	Retreat (94 ASTS)	4 p.m.	Bldg. 922/Front		30-day record review	10-11 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202
					Cmdrs working lunch	11:30 a.m.	Club
					Flying safety	1-2 p.m.	Bldg. 727/700 AS
					Immunizations	1-3 p.m.	Navy Clinic
					CDC study hall	1 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304
					Qtrly Super Safety Tng	1:15-2 p.m.	Bldg. 744/2nd Fl Tng Rm
					Unit DP rep meeting	2-3 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1322
					Sign out	4 p.m.	Unit